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"THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH IN CHRIST"

BISHOP LILJE TELLS ASSEMBLY ITS TASK.

World Lutherans were challenged to face the one supreme task of expressing their faith to the modern world.

The challenge came from Bishop Hanns Lilje in his president's message to the initial plenary session of the Lutheran World Federation meeting in Minneapolis auditorium.

Representatives of more than 50 million Lutherans in 29 countries in all areas of the globe were urged by Bishop Lilje to make a courageous and timely confessions of their faith to a world " Rent asunder by countless, almost insuperable tensions."

This confession, " like any real confession," he noted, " must be made in the presence of God and before the eyes of the world." Mindful of the Lutheran heritage, the L. W. F. president advised the church against making her confession simply by repeating the thoughts and words of the past. Rather, the church must speak to the world today, " For the moment in which we set forth our confession of the living God is the present moment, the immediate world in whose facinating spectrum of longing and dread, technical triumphs and world wide catastrophes we have been placed."

Speaking on the central theme of the Assembly, "Christ Frees and Unites," he expressed hope that " like an electric current, there ought to go out from this great international assembly a great, united stimulus of faith as we renew our pledge of allegiance to Jesus Christ. "

The Lutheran leader warned, "we do not seek to escape from the world by retiring into the cells of piety when we assert this; rather, we seek to orient ourselves towards Christ who is the answer to all the difficulties, anxieties and fears of our generation."

"There can be no doubt," Bishop Lilje maintained, "that the most conspicuous characteristic of today's world is dread—the dread of a new war, the horror of catastrophe the consequences of which would be beyond reckoning."

Observing that " racial and religious, political and economic differences disappear wherever there arise the dark clouds of fear, " he added that " there is in our world today an internationale of dread which embraces more men than do any of the great political ideologies. "

Scholars and statemen are agreed that mankind must act together, " but neither a workable control of atomic weapons nor their complete renunciation (which would be ever better) is fesible unless there is a general willingness among the nations to

"The Unity of the Church in Christ" continued

cooperate," the L.W.F. president declared.

The only a chance for such cooperation, according to Bishop Lilje, depends on a moralstrength that would require a completely new attitude among human beings.

"Christians must never grow tired of proclaiming that the only one from which such a total renewal of man can proceed is Jesus Christ, who, by his resurrection, has deprived death of its power and has brought a new way of life into the world,' he said,

At the same time, he called for consideration of the transformation of the world wrought by modern technology "which has altered our present world more vitally and more lastingly than has ever been done before," so that "an Internationale of technological civilization has arisen from which no part of the world is exempted.

This development has brought nations closer together as it has created the same general conditions for travel, communication hygenic living in almost all parts of the world, he said, but it has "brought mankind on closer to happiness."

Bishop Lilje went on to describe "a deep seated intellectual and spiritual insecurity" as another characteristic of today's world.

This, he noted, had been created by drastic changes of scientific views which have been brought about by the research of nuclear physicists and have led to new and profound philosophical insights that have affected "every philosophy from which the spiritual life of our western civilization derives nourishment."

"We are living in a nihilistic world whose real philosophical and religious dilemma lies in the fact that man does not want any religious illusions and has no power to believe" even though this generation cannot be described irreligious but—to the contrary.."is permeated by notable religious tendencies", he said.

"Disregarding certain currents of dialectical materialism, which certainly is not of modern thought, there is no anti-Christian trend of thought in our generation worthy of mention; yet there is no universal movement which can revitalize Christianity, either."

Modern man, who is steeped in skepticism will take notice only if he meets a clear, definitive and creditable expression of faith and it is therefore "mandatory that his skepticism be met not by a fearful, minimal apologetic, but rather by the power and clarity of faith," the bishop stressed.

The theme, Bishop Lilje explained, "links the center of our faith with the problems of our time," and "strikes boldly at the heart of the present-day problem" since Christ "is the only, the most important and the most effective liberator." and there can be no doubt "that the idea of freedom in the Western World is a legacy from Christianity."

In conclusion, Bishop Lilje cited that the most important contribution which the Lutheran Church can make to the ecumenical movement is the witness that it is only Christ who unites.

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LOWER CORENTYNE PARISH

ST. PETER'S, Fyrish Village:

Catechist S. Pillay

A Lutheran Preaching Mission was conducted at Fyrish Village from September 16-20 with Catechist T. C Menzies as Missioner. The nightly services were well attended. The lay-evangelists worked hard to make the Mission week a success. We continue to look forward for God's blessing upon their labors.

" Lower Courantyne Parish " continued

ST. BARTHOLOMEW; Fyrish Road:
Catechist S. Pillay

Catechist J. Abdool was guest missioner during our preaching mission and the response and enthusiasm of the people was very great. We look forward for a "big" step at Fyrish Road.

To increase our effectiveness in the Sunday School a Cabinet was formed on September 24th. Those present were: Catechist Pillay, Mrs, S, Morrison, D, Nandkisore, P, Sukhan, S Ricknauth, and W. Chinapen, Secretary. We hope to work together for a bigger and more successful Sunday School,

ST. JOHN'S, Williamsburg.
Catechist D. Lalsingh

Farewell: Officers of the organization and members of St. John's were sorry to lose Pastor Meyer. Everyone wished the Pastor well and hope that he would do his best for the Lord wherever he goes. The theme at the farewell service was "Our loss is someone else's gain."

Welcome: On September 15th the congregation welcomed Pastor Christhilf as Acting Pastor of St, John's with many kind sentiments. Shireen Sankar, on behalf of the congregation and its auxiliaries was the first to offer a welcome and then garlanded him.

Mission Week: Under the leadership of their able Missioner, Catechist Arnold Persaud, the congregation had a successful Evangelism Week. A train wreck just outside of Georgetown did not daunt Catechist Persaud who manage to reach St, John's just in time to send out the lay visitors on the first afternoon. The lay visitors are to be commended for their zeal since it is the first time that they have undertaken such a task. The are: Robert Phagoo, Edith Sarran, Doris Ragnauth, Drowedie Rajabally, Marjorie Smith, Michael Bharose, Mr, Rajabally, Katie Ramsammy, Frank Moorgan, Arnold Sookram, Cecilia Carpen, and Victor Outar.

The Year Round Evangelism Committee was commissioned Friday night, September 20th, 1957 as follows:

1. Robert Phagoo, Chairman from Vestry
2. Michael Bhrose from Sunday School
3. Joyce Ragnauth ,, Luther Leaggue
4. Marjorie Smith ,, Women's Leaue
5. David Jaimangal ,, a Layman

Child Baptisms: Desmond E. Narine, Barbara Armogan, Yasmin Elizabeth Khan, Dharamlall John Gopaul, Patrick B. A. Arokium.

Adult Baptisms: Mrs. Baba Soobamah, Pahalad, Haymandree Mohabir, Callimuthu Munswami.

Confirmation: Frank P. Moorgan, Walbride D. P. Moorgan, Norka Elvira Day, Farida R. Sankar, Joseph L. Ragnauth, Sheik H. Amir, Walle H. Smith, Suranee K. Rajabally.

Transfers: Jean Abdool, John S. Abdool, Masuman, Husaim, Margaret Abdool, Martin Abdool.

ST. JAMES, Whim:
Catechist David Totaram,

Mr, Hilton Gopie, who served his Lord and St, James Church very faithfully as Secretary of the Vestry, left early in September to further his studies as a Medical Missionary at Lenoir Rhyne College, Hickory, N, C,, U, S, A, Best wishes from St, James.

Mr, J Atchan was appointed as Secretery of the Vestry in Mr, Gopie's place.

The Congregation is very happy to have lights in the Church at last. Our thanks go to Mr, Sahadat who gives the current free and Mr. P, Rajgopaul who installed the lights.

St, James was proud to have for the first time in its history an Evangelism Preaching Mission, Catechist M, Jahoor of St, Timothy Lutheran Church, Stanleytown was our missioner. We have discovered prospects which will be followed up in weeks to come. During the Misson week the Church could not hold the people. The place was over crowed: men, women

LOWER CORENTYNE PARISH .. continued.

children sat on the floor, and many stood outside the Church by the roadside to hear the Gospel's message.

At the first Confirmation Class ..19 persons attended,

Luther League:

The officers are;

Hardat A. Rampersaud, President
Miss Baby Ragoobir, Vice-President
Lawrence Whiltingum, Secretary
Ralph Joseph, Asst, Secretary,

The League is divided into two houses (groups), with a captain each. Jacob's house - Hilton Jajgopaul, Esau's House - Ralph Joseph.

With great spirit, both houses are moving rapidly toward their goals, both in attendance and giving.

We were honored by having for the first time, Mr. E. Ritchie, President of the Synodical Luther League, give us a brief visit.

Sunday School: This Sunday school is growing so rapidly that there is not enough space or benches for the children. We give God praise for this growth. All Sunday school literature bills have been paid.

A new Sunday school will be opened in the middle of Whim on the first Sunday in October.

A Cabinet has been formed to help teachers solve problems and discuss how they can improve the r Sunday school.

We thank Mr. J. Atchan for the gift of a book press to our Sunday school.

We were also honored by the kind visit of Miss Martha Petersen in our Sunday school. We hope that she enjoys her stay in B. G.

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, Alness.

Catechist T. C. Menzies

Mission Week: From September 16-20, 1957, Missioner Catechist S. Pillay held nightly services. Well received also was the film "The Resurrection of Jesus". Every night there was good attendance and folks were much impressed.

Visitation: The Lay-Visitors did a good work and through their efforts the majority of homes were reached and thirty names are now enrolled as good prospects.

Confirmation: A junior class is now being taught by Miss Zartman who plays a large part in allthe organizations at St.Michael. A Senior confirmation class will soon be started on Sunday night for the new prospects.

Sewing Class: There are 30 on roll in this class conducted by Parish Worker, Vera Armogan, who teaches sewing and handwork every Thursday afternoon. The children are showing real interest and are making good progress.

Luther League: The Luther League continues with a well rounded programme. The last quarterly theme, 'Go Ye and Tell', will now be followed by "Be Thankful to God for The Church". There are now 24 Leaguers on roll and attendance is good. Miss Zartman is of great help to this youth auxiliary, whose interest is unparalled in its history. A Volley Ball and net will help rejuvenate the games activity.

District Luther League: Mr. Ritchie, the President of the Synodical Luther League, and L. L. Presidents and Catechists of the District attended the first meeting. Mr. Ritchie must be highly commended for his parlimentary manner in conducting the league and for his explanation of how the District League must be conducted. We want to thank him for travelling so far to come to us. We trust that in the near future Mr. Ritchie will find it possible to be with us again.

ST. STEPHEN, Bush Lot Farm.

Catechist J. Abdool

Our Mission Week which commenced on September 16th and ended on Sept. 20, 1957 was really eventful. The nightly service was very grand, the lay evengelists did a wonderful work, and the effect produced by that mission was clearly seen both on Christians and non-Christian prospects.

On Monday of Sept., 16, at 7.30 p.m. some religious films were shown by Pastor F. D. Christhilf, and more than 300 people who were there packed the Church

LOWER CORENTYNE PARISH .. continued

to capacity. The nightly service was conducted by Catechist D. Totoram, the Missioner, whose favorite feature each night was the question and answer period, at which time he answered many queations on the Christian Faith. He is also noted for the soul stirring sermons preached during the week and many people were really fed with the Word of God.

The Lay Evangelists were Messrs. P. C. Ramsarran, Isaac Sookhoo, Joe Bactawar and Mesdames: Eileen Sooklall, Jean Shikissoon, Jilette Shirkissoon, Joyce Ramcharran, Savitri Kublall, and Sookia Ramcharran.

Each afternoon at 4.30 p.m. they received instruction from the Missioner and then went visiting, non-Chtistians, many of whom never expected to come to Christian Church. The response on the whole was good, with many prospective members being found for the Catechist's Class. The work or the Lay Evangelists has greatly increased the hopes for a much larger congregation and we pray that God would make many converts soon.

Women's League: A Women's League was started by Miss Zartman and Miss Eileen Sooklall who are contributing towards it remarkably. The League is grow- and is being held forthnightly at St. Stephen, and sometimes at St. Luke with members from both congregations.

Luther League Officers for 1957:

David Kublall, President; Joseph Drepaul, Vice-President, Savitri Kublall, Secretary, Erick Sahadeo, Asst. Secretary, Eileen Sooklall, Advisor, John S. Abdool, Treasuer.

Other Organization and Officers.

Sunday School, Bush Lot, No. I.

Superintendent .. Miss Eileen Sooklall, Other teachers .. Erick Sahadeo and Savitree Kublall.

St. Stephen Sunday School,

Bush Lot, No. 28. Superintendent... David Kublall, Other teachers — John S. Abdool, Bridgebassy Samaroo, and Tilette Ramsarran.

Junior and Senior Confirmation Classes. Instructor—John S- Abdool

Sewing Class. Eileen Sooklall

ST. LUKE, Cromarty:

It was a real privilege for St. Luke's Congregation for the first time in history to participate in the Evangelism Mission Week which was held on September 16-20, 1957.

Prior to Mission Week, the members took a complete religious census of six villages and were able to discover many prospects. These were afterwards visited during Mission Week and many are now in the Catechetical class. The Missioner, Catechist D Lalsingh, conducted all the nightly services and was the messenger for 4 nights. More than three hundred people crowded into the compound when a film was shown on Sept., 17th, and each night the Church was packed to capacity.

Lay evangelists were - Messrs. Hilbert Kyte, Moses Nathoo, Joseph Drepaul, Erick Sahadeo, Cyril Drepaul and Mesdames- Vida Drepaul, Ada Drepaul, Louisa Richardson, Bridget Wilson, Eileen Sooklall, and Orleen Drepaul. Each afternoon at 4.30 they received instruction from the Missioner and then went visiting. They were very happy, and many had wonderful experiences as they endeavored to bring lost souls to the Saviour's Fold.

The Mission had many good effects. Most of the members and prospects were strengthened in their faith. The Word of God was spread through many villages. People from every walk of life were drawn into the Church and enlightened in the Christian way of life. Truly if the Mission Week had continued a longer time, the Church would have received many more members. We are now counting on our follow-up programme to keep in touch with the many souls that were reached during Mission Week.

❖ SKELDON PARISH ❖

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH : Catchist H. Rajabally.

It was in deed a privilege to our congregation to be host for the Synodical Women's League Convention on August 1—2, 1957. Although we do not have any Women's League in the Parish, we were glad to welcome the ladies wholeheartedly. In every way it was a very successful convention. From the compliments received, we feel proud in upholding our reputation as a parish in preparing for conventions. One person remarked that this is one of the few conventions she had attended where all of the meals were served on time. Thanks to the workers and friends who helped to make the convention a success.

Our Sunday School is divided into four classes and regular and careful attention is being given to the materials supplied by the Church.

The Luther League is trying its best in the Upper Corentyne Volley Ball Association. Competition is very keen, and the highlight will be the game with Skeldon High School.

The second adult instruction class since our February Evangelism Mission was crowned on August 4, 1957 when 9 adults stood before the altar to be received into the Church and 5 children were baptized.

Adults baptized were: Harold Raghunath, Janet Raghunath, Mr. & Mrs. Ramrit, Basil Ramrit, Veerasammy Tandacharry, Armogan Perimal and Gobin Persaud.

Confirmed: Leslie Lochan.

Children baptized were: Bertram Raghunath, Ruth Raghunath, Helen Ramrit, Edward Ramrit and Barbara Ramrit.

Our loss was Mr. Haffisullah Akbar Khan's gain on July 26, when Miss Savitra Barran and Mr. Khan united in wedlock before the altar at Emmanuel. Miss Barran has been a stalwart of the Church here and a faithful Sunday School teacher for some years. The happy couple are now living in Georgetown, and we wish them a blessed wedded life in His Name.

ST. PHILIPS LUTHERAN CHURCH : Catechist H. Rajabally

Evangelism is still the big job in this congregation. We have strengthened our Evangelism Committee by two more members. The Committee now consists of: Mr. Cyril Singh, Harold Ramnarine, David Ramnarine, Mrs. Hyacinth Angels and Mrs. Jane Joseph. We meet once a month as a Committee and twice a month to visit members and prospects.

Recently added to our membership by adult baptism was Mr. Ramadhar Sampath, who has long been active in Luther League activities.

Mrs. Jane Joseph had the privilege to welcome the secretary of the Synodical Women's League during the Convention in August. We also want to thank the members of this congregation who helped in many ways to make the convention a success.

ST. MATTHIAS LUTH. CHURCH : Catechist E. Muckuniall

This congregation is growing slowly but steadily. We wish to thank the women of this congregation for their service given at the Women's League Convention held at Skeldon on August 1—2. As a direct result of the inspiration of that Convention St. Matthias Women's League was started on September 12, 1957, with a girl's sewing class on September 26. Miss Ruth Zartman has promised to be with us every second Thursday of each month. We feel sure that with her help and friendliness things will work out well.

Cottage meetings are being held quite often in the homes of members and prospects. We believe in personal contacts, and so we feel that this is one of the best ways in spreading the Gospel of Christ.

SKELDON PARISH .. continued

ST. BARNABAS PREACHING POINT, Kiltearn:

Acting Catechist E. Muckuniall

This congregation was suddenly left without a Catechist, but with the kind and able help of Mr. Rose and Mrs. Jeffery, the work was still carried on. Catechist Muckunlall was asked to assist in the congregation and he was pleased to accept the opportunity. Although he is residing at No. 68 Village, which is 13 miles from Kiltearn, Catechist uses the bus or hire car to visit members and prospects in the middle of the week, and on Sundays he conducts Sunday School and Worship Service after his services at No. 68 are finished.

The attendance at Sunday School is quite fair, but the attendance at Worship service is poor. We do hope and pray that with God's guidance this congregation may become stronger.

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WOMEN'S LEAGUE CONFERENCE

.. August 1..2, 1957. ..

"Lord Teach Us To Pray" was the theme of the Fifth Synodical Conference of the Women's League of our Church held at Skeldon August 1 - 2. Emanuel Congregation and volunteers of other churches in the Skeldon Parish, of which the Rev. Frank Christhilf is pastor, filled beautifully all obligations as host to some 80 delegates and visitors. The Programme Committee had a well planned programme of worship, study and inspiration carrying out the theme "Lord Teach Us To Pray". Those on the programme, apart from the business sessions, were Misses Olive Steaman, Eileen Sooklall, Vera Armogan, parish workers; Ruth Zartman, Mrs. O. Dillon and Mrs. E. B. Meyer. The Service of Holy Communion was observed for the opening of Conference, with the message delivered by the Rev. A. R. Bowen. Guest speaker for Conference was Mr. Ongkar Narayan, principal of Skeldon High School. His lecture on "Education Today" was both challenging and enlightening. One of the highlights of convention was the report of the Thank Offering Project fund. Conference was proud to learn that the efforts of all leagues together with the splendid leadership of the Executive Officers the goal of $1500. for the past two years, was met within a balance of $43.75 which members of Conference voted to meet within the next two months. This project is to build the first unit or cottage for the care of aged Lutherans.

Congratulations to three new Leagues accepted in the Synodical this past biennium.

There was a note of sadness, too, at conference when Mrs. Magalee bid farewell to the Leaguers for a period of three years to be with her family while Pastor Hector will be studying at Muhlenberg College. Miss Wagner, on behalf of the Executive Officers presented Mrs. Magalee with a gift of appreciation for her services and devotion to the work of Women's Leagues in our Church. She expressed the feeling of all leaguers in saying: Mrs. Magalee will be greatly missed but we wish her every happiness and God's blessings while she will be away from us. Mrs. Magalee responded with hope that every leaguer would continue to have interest and service for the purposes and projects in the Women's Leagues of the Church. She will be eager to watch our progress and success and wished God's richest blessing on all our efforts.

At all conventions and conferences there is a time for fun, Pastor Meyer ably conducted a fellowship social hour which all enjoyed.

The Conference closed with the install-

Women's League Conference .. Continued

ation of the newly elected officers for the coming biennium '57-'59, which are: Mrs. Marjorie Saunders, president; Mrs. O. Dillon, vice-president, Miss L. Thompson, Secretary; Miss S. Watson, treasurer; Mrs. S. Morrison, parish worker; Pastor E. B. Meyer, advisor, Miss R. Zartman, lady missionary.

It is the hope of every one who attended Conference that within this next biennium more new leagues will be organized and apply for membership in the Synodical Organization through the Executive, so that at next conference every church will be represented. Any congregations desiring the services of any of the Executive Officers, or any one of the Lady Missionries, for guidance in understanding the purpose and organizational structure of Women's Leagues, please write to any of the officers and someone will be glad to comply with the request. As the one of the auxiliaries of the Lutheran Church, the Conference was happy to receive the compliments of the Pastors of our Church for having conducted an orderly and inspirational Conference. Women of our Church won't you join with us in the effort to be true witnesses to our Lord in your Church and community?

Since the Southern Cross is our loc Church Paper the Leagues will be ha ppy to have this news—since the time our Conference in August; St. Luke's, Cromarty and St. Stephen's, Bush Lot has been meeting jointly as a Women's League, also September 12, the women of St. Matthias, No. 68 Village met and are meeting fortnightly as a Women's League. Interest is also being created among the women of Emanuel, Skeldon; Nativity, Crabwood Creek for a similar joint meeting. There will be others in the near future, we are hopeful. Also may we report that quite a number of the Leagues have sent to Treasurer, Miss Sybil Watson, St. James Village, West Coast -- their special Thank Offering as voted by conference.

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❖ SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER TRAINING RETREAT ❖

On the capable direction of Pastor Wallace Wolff twelve Sunday School Teachers and workers had a qunique experience attending a teacher training retreat or seminar at Sandhills, August 26-30, 1957. During the August holiday the buildings at Sandhills compound afforded a wonderful solution for housing. Mr. King, Head-Teacher was a grand host to the group and Mrs. Lambert prepared delicious meals for the students. Twelve teachers workers, and several guests attended the eight sessions on Christian Education of Children conducted by Ruth Zartman. It was somewhat of an experiment to have these sessions patterned after worship idea. After lectures on various Sunday School techniques the teachers shared and learned through demonstration. fWe feel this pattern of concentrated efforts and study within a shorter period of time is more effective than the one night each for six weeks. It was also a wonderful opportunity to have the experience of living together away from the business of every day duties and be challenged to live nobly for God. Many things contributed to make this a never-to-be-forgotten experience; being aware of God's handiwork, worshipping under the stars at night; climbing the sandhill from the Demerara River, watching the lazy progress of the River Steamer carrying supplies and exports to and from inland areas; a peaceful afternoon launch trip 10 miles on an inland creek to Santa Anglican Mission; being led in morning devotions and Bible study by Catechists Seeram and A. Persaud respectively; Miss Martha Petersen's Campfire Devotions; the closing challenge of the film-strip "The Great Adventure," all these -- then how could one forget! Pastor Wolff and Miss Zartman feel that with some changes in our experiment, this might be a venture for our church for months and years to come for teachers of others parishes of the church, as well as, for leaders among our youth to go apart for fellowship, study and inspiration toward dedicating a life of service to God.